

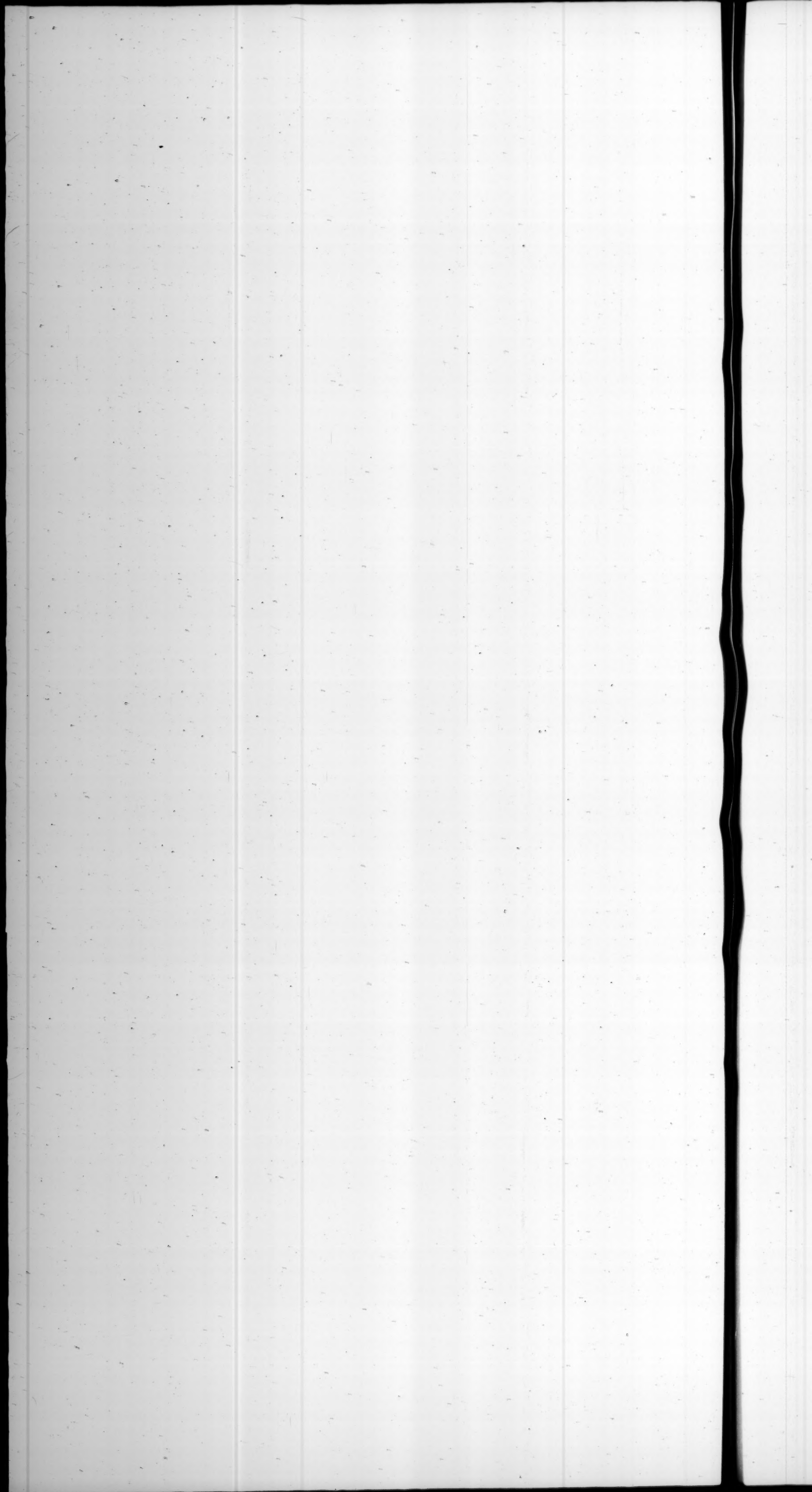
By the King.

A Proclamation for the true Working and Dying of Cloth.



Hereas diuers good Lawes and Statutes haue been heretofore made for the true Working, Making, and Dying of Clothes, Draperies, and Commodities within this Realme: And for the Weaving, Searching, Measuring, and Sealing of the same, being the principall and Staple commoditie of this Land; yet notwithstanding, of late yeeres the trade of Clothing hath been much discredited by the corrupt desires and practises of some Clothiers, Merchants, Drapers, and Dyers for their owne priuate gaine, in making and selling of false Clothes, ouerstrained with Tenters, and other vnlawfull Engins, and burnt and spoyled with the hote Presse, and otherwise falsified in diuers maners, whereby they haue not their true Lengths, Breadths, and Weights: Nor their true Dyes and Colours, according to the Lawes and Statutes in that behalfe prouided; to the great dishonour of this Kingdome, and the slander and discredite of this great Commoditie, and the hinderance and losse of the Buyer, and the inciting and encouragement of Strangers to set vp the making of Cloth in other Countreys; Which abuses are like more and more to encrease, if some remedie be not had therein.

For the better suppressing of the falshood vsed in the working, Making, Dying, selling & uttering of all sorts of all vendible Clothes, Bayes, Sayes, Felts, Stuffles, Draperies and Commodities; aswell of the olde as of the new Draperies made in this our Realme of England, Dominion of Wales, and Isle of Wight: Wee doe by these presents publish and declare, that it is Our expresse Will and pleasure, That if at any time or times after the Feast day of the Purification of the blessed Virgin Mary now next ensuing, any person or persons shall offend in false working, Making, Dying, Selling, and Uttering of the Clothes, Stuffles, Draperies, and Commodities



aforesayd, contrary to the Lawes and Statutes in that behalfe Enacted, and now in force in this Realme, except in case of such and so many Clothes as are by Us, or the Lords of Our Privie Councell, tolerated to bee transported beyond the Seas, Dressed and Strained; That the offenders therein shall incurre the penalties thereof, and receive condigne punishment according to the same Lawes.


And for the better discovering of the said falshoods, and expressing of the sayd enormities; Wee doe Will and command, That all and euery such vendible Clothes, Draperies and commodities, to bee offered and put to sale, at any time or times hereafter within the Citie of London and liberties thereof (except before except) shall bee brought into Blackwell Hall in London, being the vsuall Market place for such Clothes, there to be Viewed and Searched according to the Statute in that behalfe made and provided.

And to the end the said deceits vsed in working, Making, and Dying of the sayd Clothes, Stuffles, Draperies and Commodities may bee the better discovered, and appeare to the Buyers thereof, Wee doe hereby expressly charge and command all person and persons whatsoever, aswell our naturall borne Subiects and Denizens, as strangers, Whom it may concerne, not to Buy or Sell, Packe, Ship, or Transport out of this Realme any of the said Clothes, Stuffles, Draperies or Commodities whatsoever before the same be Searched and Sealed, as the Lawes and Statutes of Our Realme now in force require.

And we doe straightly charge and command all Maiors, Sheriffes, Iustices of Peace, Bayliffes, Constables, headboroughs, and other our louing Subiects to Whom it shall appertaine, That they aide and assist all and euery Our Officers and Ministers in the due and lawfull execution of their places and offices, concerning the premisses.

Giuen at Roystone the seuenth day of December, in the eleuenth yeere of our Reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the seuen and fourtieth.

God saue the King.

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